

**DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD
DISTRICT IV**

June 6, 2001 - 7:00 p.m.
Stanley/Aley Community School Center, 1749 S. Martinson
www.wichitagov.org

Members Present

Paul Ward
Dorman Blake
Wayne Wells
Bea Vickers
Jerry McGinty
June Bailey
Council Member Bill Gale

Members Absent

Iola Crandall
Ed Koon
Tom Kessler

Staff

Off. Richard Mellard, Police
Off. Lisa Rollins, Police
Les Hanshaw, Comm. Educator
Aaron Hamilton, Neighborhood Assistant

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Council Member Bill Gale called the meeting to order, explaining the purpose of the District Advisory Board as representatives of District IV residents who provide input for consideration in City Council actions.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Gale asked for approval of the minutes for the May 2, 2001 meeting. A correction was noted on by Wayne Wells that Business Association appearing on the last page should be changed to Steering Committee. Bea Vicker moved to accept minutes, Jerry McGinty gave a second. Minutes were approved 7-0.

Approval of Agenda same as above

Council Member Gale noted that the agenda was correct for the meeting.

Public Agenda

Les Henshaw announced that the City of Wichita-Community Education Division, in partnership with Sedgwick County COMCARE, will offer a series of free workshops open to the public through the Family Health Education Series. No registration is required. Topics will include Coping with Emotional Illness, Medication Management, Limits and Consequences, Suicide Prevention, and Crisis Planning. For more information, call Jennifer Stevenson, COMCARE 275 Project Coordinator, at 337-7223.

Planning Agenda

No items were on the agenda for Planning

Action: No Action Necessary.

New Business

Presentation by Public Libraries

Cynthia Berner-Harris, Director of Public Libraries presented information about the future of libraries in Wichita, particularly, District IV. In 1999, the 14-member library board met and evaluated where the library system is now and where they hope to be in the future. Their main objectives were to modify service to benefit members of the community, anticipate change in the community and its needs, and remediate shortcomings in the current system. One conclusion the Library Board came to is that there is a need for a larger facility in south Wichita. **Berner-Harris** reported that branches are currently located at Stanley/Aley and on Seneca. The Seneca branch is in space donated by Dillon's. Dillon's now wants the area back for their uses. They have agreed to honor the lease until arrangements can be made to move the library branch.

The Library Board has five wishes currently:

- a. They want to create a Regional Branch which will be larger in scope than any current branches.
- b. Possibly create a Bookmobile.
- c. Expand the Westlink branch.
- d. Expand the North Side branch.
- e. Expand the Rockwell branch.

Ms. Berner-Harris announced the new facility should become a reality very soon. Land has been purchased at I-235 and Meridian. The idea for the new facility is that it will be a Library and a Fire Station in the same complex. **Cynthia** thanked the diligent work of **Council Member Gale** and **District Advisory Board Member Ed Koon** (who is also on the Library Board) for helping get the idea of the new facility started and continued. The branch will be named the Lionel Alford Library as per the City Council's request. Gossen-Livingston have been hired to do architectural plans for the facility. Their overall vision is to combine the best of libraries, bookstores and cafes. Items they want for the new facility:

1. Easy access.
2. Easily recognized as a City building that ties into local architecture and landscaping to match the neighborhood it is located in.
3. Open and inviting environment.
4. Efficient delivery of services.
5. Staff and customers to feel secure. Lighting is the main concern here both inside and outside the building.
6. A facility that is easily adaptable for future needs (i.e. expansion).
7. Economical to construct, operate, and maintain.

Ms. Berner-Harris said that they are finalizing the architectural contract and that design could be finished by the end of the year. Construction would take approximately 52 weeks with the library opening the first quarter of 2003.

Jerry McGinty asked if the fire station was on the same time frame? **Berner-Harris** answered yes.

Bea Vickers asked if short features currently being played at the downtown library would be moved from the downtown branch? **Berner-Harris** said yes to this as well. There will be a meeting room in the new facility that will provide space for such services.

June Bailey inquired if there is a charge for the room and is there a charge for computer classes offered? **Ms. Berner-Harris** said there is a charge for the room but it can be waived. Computer classes will continue to be offered at no charge to citizens.

Council Member Gale thanked **Ms. Berner-Harris** for her presentation and noted that there has obviously been a large amount of work done by Library Board on this project.

Ms. Berner-Harris thanked **Council Member Gale** for helping the project move along so quickly. **Council Member Gale** said **Ed Koon** couldn't be at the meeting but emailed him to let him know he would like to continue serving on the District Advisory Board. **Council Member Gale** said that would be great.

BOARD AGENDA

Community Police

Council Member Gale welcomed **Officer Lisa Rollins** who was filling in for **Officer Diehl** who is doing a project with managers of manufactured home parks. The meeting he is working on will be held Tuesday, June 12, 2001 at 4701 S. Emporia from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Officer Rollins** reported the area has been quiet and that nothing abnormal has been happening.

Officer Richard Mellard noted there is a big push concentrating on residential and non-residential burglaries from the river to Meridian and south to Harry. He noted the Southwest Village Association cleanup went well. June 7, 2001 the Sunflower Association is having a meeting. The big push in that area is meth labs. The entire meeting is dedicated to meth labs: how to recognize them in your neighborhood. **Detective Roger Bieberly** will be speaking, as he is the expert on meth labs.

Dorman Blake said he had a hard time getting officers to his home when he called for help. A woman ran through his house that was being chased by two men. They had cut her phone lines and were sitting outside her house. **Dorman** phoned WPD but was told there was no one available to come at that time.

Council Member Gale asked that **Aaron Hamilton** notifies Captain Tenbrook and Chief Williams about the DABs concern about a lack of officers in that area as well as the concern about the size of beat 29.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

OTHER

Jerry McGinty – no issues at this time.

Paul Ward - There are five Habitat for Humanity homes being built currently in the area of 27th and Elizabeth streets. There was a small cleanup Monday June 5, 2001 where citizens cleared an area

between two fences for a local resident. Their next Neighborhood Association meeting will be at Cowtown to watch the Movies Under the Stars.

Council Member Gale mentioned that Habitat for Humanity is having a building blitz August 13-23, 2001. **Senator Sam Brownback, the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, and the State of Kansas** are all hoping to build houses during that time.

Dorman Blake – They are continuing work on putting in water lines.

Wayne Wells – The Delano Steering Committee is still working on rezoning issues. The City of Wichita has made a recommendation about what is to be rezoned as much of the Delano District is currently zoned as multi-family, mid-industrial. June 11, 2001 recommendations will be presented. They are pleased about WPD cracking down on noise but are concerned about noise at Lawrence-Dumont Stadium. Delano supports Lawrence-Dumont but would like to see the volume turned down.

Council Member Gale asked the **Neighborhood Assistant** to contact LD Stadium and discuss the volume. Delano held a cleanup on Saturday, June 4, 2001, which was very successful. This was the first cleanup they had held.

Jan Lister said it was the largest they had seen. They covered the entire area in the appropriated time.

Mr. Wells asked for an update on the demolition and construction landfill so this type of cleanup can continue to be done.

Council Member Gale noted that an application is on file with the state to operate a landfill for demolition and construction.

Wells said people are excited to do another cleanup whenever possible.

Paul Ward asked **Council Member Gale** what the long-term plan was by the City of Wichita.

Council Member Gale discussed the 1993 Storm Water Drainage Plan. Last year, funds were increased in the Capital Budget to address flooding. **Ward** asked if someone could come address the District Advisory Board.

Dorman Blake noted the MAPC was going to discuss it the following day (June 7, 2001). **Council Member Gale** asked when DAB's are on the CIP agenda particularly about flooding.

June Bailey brought up issues of flooding in Orchard Park. **Council Member Gale** said \$10 million has been put in the CIP for Orchard Park over the last couple of years.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

The 2001 DAB Orientation will be June 23, 2001 with check-in beginning at 8:00 a.m. and tours wrapping up around 2:30 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity for DAB members to discuss issues with members from other districts and actually tour areas where decisions DABs helped make are being implemented.

Council Member Gale asked if everyone would be willing to serve another year on the DAB. All present said yes. **Council Member Gale** noted there are currently two vacancies on the board.

Southwest Village Neighborhood Association, the MacArthur and 47th street area, and the new McCormick Neighborhood Association were all mentioned as possibly needing representation.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the District IV Advisory Board will be held on July 18, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. in the Stanley/Aley Neighborhood Center. The meeting was originally suppose to be on July 4, 2001 but was rescheduled to the third Wednesday to follow the DAB IV schedule.

No Action Required.

Council Member Gale noted that the City Council approved the alley paving discussed at a previous meeting. A letter of intent was approved by the Council for bond financing at \$6.1 million for the Sedgwick County Hazardous Waste facility.

Council Member Gale also mentioned that Tuesday, June 19, 2001 a meeting will be at the Kansas Masonic Home Fellowship Hall regarding the plans to widen Seneca Street. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m.

With no further business, **Ward (Blake)** moved that the meeting be adjourned. **Council Member Gale** adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Aaron Hamilton
Neighborhood Assistant**